

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention provides a circuit to drive a light source capable of lengthening the life span of the light source and of coping with both a rated power mode and a power saving mode. A circuit to drive a light source includes a control device to drive the light source, which is composed of a discharge tube, and to switch the light source to a plurality of lighting modes including a rated power mode and a power saving mode. The control device includes a lighting mode setting unit to set the lighting mode to one of the plurality of lighting modes, and a rated power supplying unit to supply a rated power to the light source at the lighting starting time of the light source until a halogen cycle of the discharge tube is stabilized. The control device switches the light source to the lighting mode set by the lighting mode setting unit after the halogen cycle of the discharge tube is stabilized.